
Health Care Financing Administration (HCFA) Programs and Policies —Michael McDaniel, HCFA

I'm here to answer any questions that you may have about the Medicaid program, because I work not just in HIV/AIDS but in several different areas in the Medicaid program in the Atlanta regional office.

HCFA Maternal HIV Consumer Information Project (MHIV-CIP)

Background

- Medicaid is the largest single payer of direct services to persons living with AIDS.
- In the late 1980s, Medicaid began expanding eligibility income levels for pregnant women, working with each state individually to expand eligibility, coverage, and services. Eligibility ranged from 133% to 185% of federal poverty level.
- In 1994-5, the results of AIDS Clinical Trials Group (ACTG) 076, HCFA encouraged states to get more involved in getting information out about HIV counseling, testing, and treatment.
- HCFA's goal is to improve health outcomes and reduce morbidity and preventable deaths through education.

What is MHIV-CIP?

- It is a collaborative effort of HCFA and our state and community partners
- Focuses on the development and distribution of free informational materials aimed at alerting women of childbearing age to the benefits of HIV testing, counseling, and treatment, and potential eligibility for Medicaid.
- An initial pilot was run in 1995-6 in four states (RI, DE, 3 counties in NJ, 5 counties in FL).
- States design their own programs.
- It is expanding to 24 sites (an additional 16 states have CIPs, which use materials other than HCFA's).
- HCFA's 1997 National Performance Review goal on health promotion is to have 100% of states participating by the end of 2000.
- Materials include postcards and posters in 14 languages (English, Spanish, Bosnian, Chinese, Vietnamese, Japanese, French, Russian, Korean, Haitian Creole, Yupik, Hmong, Khmer, Portuguese) and videos in English and Spanish. New versions of the video are currently in production.
- Additional HCFA activities
 - Promote provider education.
 - Provide technical assistance to states to establish/maintain state-specific projects.
 - Maintain HCFA website (www.hcfa.gov/hiv/default.htm)
 - Share best practices in consumer education and public/private partnerships.

- Support (along with other Human Health Services agencies) the AIDS Treatment Information Service (ATIS).

Primary Messages

- HIV counseling and testing are important to women of childbearing age.
- Current drug regimens may significantly reduce transmission.
- Many pregnant women are eligible for Medicaid and other state/federal programs.
- Medicaid programs pay for HIV counseling, testing, drug regimens, and prophylaxis.
- Discussion of testing and reduction of HIV transmission is an integral part of prenatal care.

Special services. States have the option of providing targeted case management. A lot of states target either pregnant women or people who are HIV-positive. Also, freedom-of-choice waivers (Medicaid waivers) can be used, which enables women to be directed to a specialist provider who will track them and provide comprehensive care.

Materials Available (Contact regional HCFA HIV/AIDS coordinator. Specify language for materials)

- G** Posters
- G** Postcards
- G** Videotapes

Contact Information

Phone: 410.786.3000

Website: www.hcfa.gov/hiv/default.htm